



TOWN OF LA POINTE
MADELINE ISLAND

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La Pointe, WI 54850

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September 10, 2014

Gina McCarthy
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Susan Hedman
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
Ralph Metcalfe Federal Building
77 West Jackson Blvd
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Ms. McCarthy and Dr. Hedman,

In support of the formal request to you on May 27, 2014 from the Six Bands of the Anishinaabeg Territory Watersheds and Waters of Lake Superior: Bad River Band of Lake Superior; Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior; Lac du Flambeau Band; St. Croix Band; Sokoagon Band; Lac Courte Oreilles Band, we support their request that the Environmental Protection Agency initiate a public process under Section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act to protect treaty rights, aquatic resources, fisheries, wildlife, subsistence and public uses in the Bad River Watershed and western Lake Superior Basin from metallic mining, including a potential Gogebic Taconite mine proposed to be located in the Penoque Range, headwaters of the Bad River Watershed.

Our Town is located in Lake Superior offshore of the proposed mine, and relies heavily on tourism, clean air, and water for our economic stability. In January of 2012, we were one of the first communities to pass a No Mining Resolution, then more specifically, passing the Penoque Mining Resolution in February 2013 (attached):

"Therefore be it resolved that the Town Board of La Pointe, Wisconsin, opposes the proposed GTAC mining operation and any and all legislation, or legislative efforts, whose purpose is to advance said mine or mining operations in and on the Penoque Range of northern Wisconsin, and; Be it further resolved; the Town Board of La Pointe, Wisconsin conveys and confers its unwavering support and assistance to the Bad River Band of Ojibwe whose history and heritage will be forever damaged and disrupted by the inevitable pollution of the watershed, land, lakes, streams and historic wild rice beds immediately adjacent to the site of the proposed mine and mining operations."

Thank you,

[Signature] Town Chairman

Town Board, La Pointe, Wisconsin

[Signature]

[Signature] Town Board Supervisor
TOWN OF LA POINTE
[Signature] (TBSUP)

Penokee Mining Resolution

Whereas, the Town Board of La Pointe, Wisconsin, considered, discussed and passed a Resolution, on January 10, 2012, in opposition to *'any mining operation that could cause irreparable and long-term damage to the future security of the Chequamegon Bay area and its freshwater heritage'*, and;

Whereas, the Town Board remains firm in its determination to preserve, protect and defend the vital resources that are our lakes, streams, land and air against any activity that would damage the sanctity of those resources in both the short and long-term, and;

Whereas, the threat of metallic mining, in and on the Penokee Range, of northern Wisconsin, has become a clear and present danger to the land, people – including those whose history and heritage is inextricably tied to this region, and the national treasure which is Lake Superior, and

Whereas, so, too, the history, heritage and future of Madeline Island, and the Town of La Pointe, reflect a connection to Lake Superior which is sacred and inviolate, and;

Whereas, Lake Superior belongs to all people of the United States and Canada, and to future generations of Americans – native and non-native - and Canadians, and is not a resource that can be sold, leased, transferred or appropriated for the profit and benefit of private corporate interests, and;

Whereas, the ominous threat to Lake Superior, as well as the adjacent land, historical tradition, cultural heritage and the very lives and livelihoods of all people and communities, including Madeline Island and the town of LaPointe, demand that we stand in united, unrelenting and determined opposition to the proposed mining operation in and on the Penokee Range, and;

Whereas, those whose past, present and future depend on, are influenced by, or find fulfillment in the land, water and resources of our region will not have their voice or their interests drowned out by profit-driven corporate interests, and;

Whereas, communities, counties, Bands and Nations stand together in steadfast opposition to the proposed mine, and mining activities, in and on the Penokee Range, now;

Therefore, Be It Resolved By The Town Board of LaPointe, Wisconsin;

Opposes the proposed GTAC mining operation and any and all legislation, or legislative efforts, whose purpose is to advance said mine or mining operations in and on the Penokee Range of northern Wisconsin, and;

Be It Further Resolved:

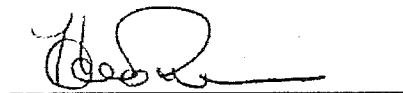
The Town Board of LaPointe, Wisconsin conveys and confers its unwavering support and assistance to the Bad River Band of Ojibwe whose history and heritage will be forever damaged and disrupted by the inevitable pollution of the watershed, land, lakes, streams and historic wild rice beds immediately adjacent to the site of the proposed mine and mining operations.




Greg Nelson, Chair

2-26-2013

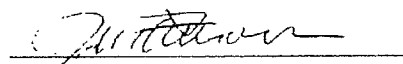
Date Passed



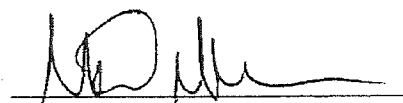
Hamilton Ross, Supervisor



Dep. Clerk Attest



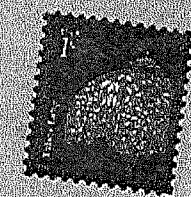
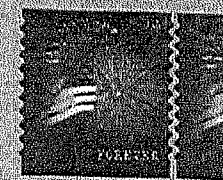
James Patterson, Supervisor



Nicholas Nelson, Supervisor

Larry Whalen, Supervisor

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